

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

23 AUGUST 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. South Vietnam

a. Tight security precautions are still being enforced in Saigon and Hue, but troop presence is less obtrusive.

b. [redacted]
[redacted] the generals recommended the imposition of martial law. [redacted] denied this amounted to a coup, but warned it could become one if Diem vacillated or compromised on the Buddhist issue.

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c. Ambassador Lodge notes that the resignation of Foreign Minister Mau "obviously caught the government flatfooted."

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[redacted]
[redacted] Phnom Penh intends to break diplomatic relations with Saigon. The Cambodians alleged to the US ambassador that on Monday two South Vietnamese planes strafed a guard post within Cambodia.

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e. The Buddhist affair, however, is probably an important factor in this decision.

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2. Sino-Soviet
dispute

a. The opponents are squaring off more and more at the governmental level.

b. Yesterday Prague closed the office of the official Chinese news agency for distributing polemical material. Peiping insists it has the right to use its officials this way, so further expulsions from Soviet bloc countries are likely.

c. Recent statements from Peiping and Moscow on the test ban issue are clearly part of a struggle between two governments, rather than a party or doctrinal dispute.

d. Wednesday, Peiping ridiculed Indian charges of a Communist border buildup, and accused Moscow of "encouraging and supporting Indian reactionaries." In a not too veiled reference to Khrushchev, Peiping said Nehru's "crude rumors" will "draw only a snicker from anyone who thinks with his head and not with his feet."

e. Even so, we do not expect a formal break in diplomatic relations in the near future.

3. UN - Yemen -
Saudi Arabia

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

c. [REDACTED] the Swedish government has assured U Thant that it will attempt to keep General Von Horn from making a "scandal" out of his departure from Yemen.

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[REDACTED]

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4. Malaysia

a. In a "verbal tug-of-war" yesterday, Sukarno assured ambassador Jones he would abide by the Manila agreements, but flatly denied that Indonesia was mounting raids into northern Borneo.

b. Later yesterday, however, the foreign minister told the ambassador that, after the audience, Sukarno had ordered him to halt all further raids.

(Cont'd)

c. Djakarta, even with the best intentions, probably could not call off the dogs quickly enough to prevent further incidents.

d. Jones is convinced that Sukarno would still jump at any opportunity to upset Malaysia. Several knowledgeable British officials in the area agree.

5. Congo-UN

a. Adoula has officially asked U Thant to leave some UN troops in the Congo until next July.

b. However, Thant's military aide, General Rihkye--recently returned from the Congo--reports the security situation "very stable." He has advised that retention of troops beyond December is "desirable but not vital."

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unanimous agreement among local US, UN and other diplomats that the Congolese army will not be able to maintain law and order if UN forces depart by January.

6. Ethiopia-Somalia a. Haile Selassie has accused the US of "knowingly or unknowingly" encouraging Somali dissidents who are fighting his security forces in eastern Ethiopia.

b. He appears convinced that our decision to supply Somalia with arms caused the recent formation of a "government" by these dissidents.

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NOTES

- A. Cuba-USSR Some Soviet SAM personnel, including senior officers, scheduled to leave Cuba this summer have been bumped from passenger ships in favor of the reported [] Cuban students going to the USSR.

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B. []

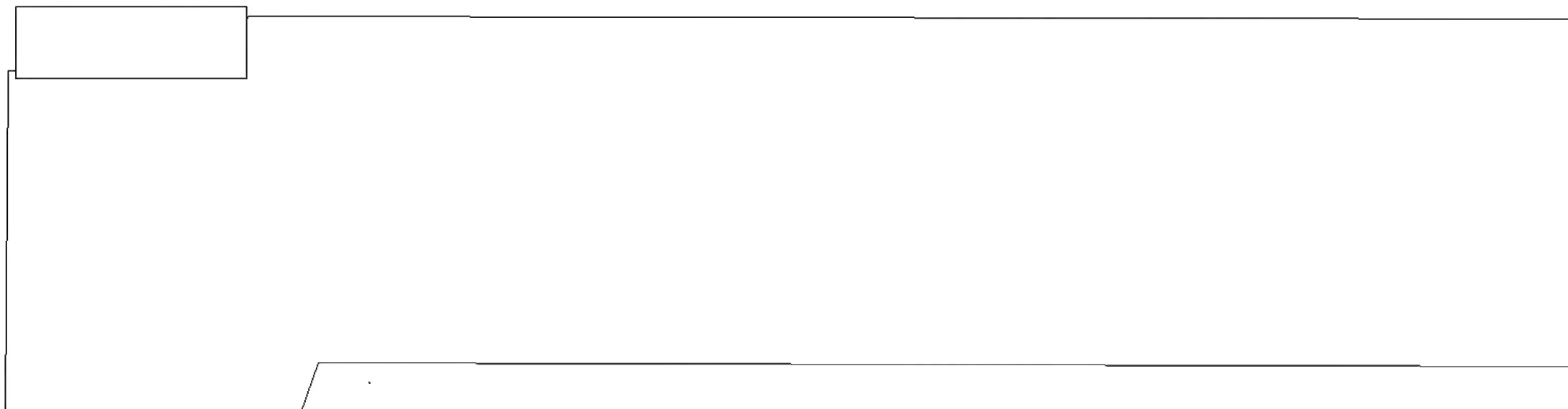
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- C. Czechoslovakia Novotny, in another attempt to silence demands for de-Stalinization, has announced the rehabilitation of most of those convicted of "crimes against the party and state" during the purge trials of the early 1950's. However, the good name of Slansky, over whose body Novotny climbed to office, was not among those restored. The decision to reverse the convictions was made in April, but Novotny delayed a public announcement, apparently hoping popular pressures would subside and he would not have to play this card. Demands for the removal of remaining Stalinists from the leadership will probably continue.

(Cont'd)

D. Pakistan - Communist China The director of Pakistan's airline said on Wednesday that negotiators had agreed on all major points of a civil air agreement with Communist China. He said a final draft was being prepared. When questioned, he said that Pakistan had not yet begun negotiations for an air agreement with Moscow.

E.



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